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SO WHETHER MR NIXON WANTS TO ENGAGE IN SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS OR NOT, IT IS UP TO HIM TO CHOOSE AND HE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PRESENT SITUATION.

Q- WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE THE SOVIET UNION CANCEL PRESIDENT NIXON'S TRIP TO MOSCOW, AS A PROTEST AGAINST THE ESCALATION OF THE WAR?

A (IN ENGLISH): WE ARE FULLY CONFIDENT THAT THE SUPPORT (TAPE ENDED AT THIS POINT. THE ANSWER WAS TO EFFECT HE CONFIDENT OF SOVIET SUPPORT, BUT AS TO MATTER OF MOSCOW SUMMIT, THIS WAS INTERNAL SOVIET AFFAIR ABOUT WHICH HE WOULD HAVE NO COMMENT.)

TAPE RESTARTED AT THIS POINT, THE ANSWER TO A SUBSEQUENT QUESTION, TRAN-

LATED FROM FRENCH.) MR NIXON TALKS A GREAT DEAL ABOUT THE THIEU "TEAM", BUT HE HAS SPOKEN OF COMMITMENTS TO 17,000,000 SOUTH VIETNAMESE. ON THIS POINT YOU SHOULD READ BETWEEN THE LINES AND SUPPLY COMMITMENTS TO THE THIEU TEAM AND NOT COMMITMENTS TO 17,000,000 SOUTH VIETNAMESE.

AND IT SHOULD BE SAID THAT THE 17,000,000 SOUTH VIETNAMESE HAVE NO NEED OF MR NIXON'S COMMITMENTS. ON THE CONTRARY, THEY ARE OPPOSED TO MR NIXON'S POLICY. FOR MR NIXON'S COMMITMENTS ARE TRANSLATED BY BOMBS FALLING CONTINUALLY ON THE 17,000,000 SOUTH VIETNAMESE.

THEREFORE, THE 17,000,000 HAVE NO NEED AT ALL OF MR NIXON'S COMMITMENTS.

Q- I WOULD LIKE TO ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

COULD IT BE SAID THAT NO PERSONS PRESENTLY OCCUPYING THE POST OF MINISTER IN THE NGUYEN VAN THIEU GOVERNMENT, THAT NO PERSON PRESENTLY

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HOLDING THE RANK OF GENERAL IN THE SAIGON ARMY, CAN BELONG TO ONE OF THE THREE COMPONENTS THAT YOU MENTIONED?

A- WITH REGARD TO THE TRI PARTITE GOVERNMENT, CONCERNING THE COMPONENT

REPRESENTING THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT, THE SAIGON ADMINISTRATION WILL ITSELF CHOOSE THE PEOPLE WHO WILL PARTICIPATE IN THIS TRIPARTITE GOVERNMENT -- EXCLUDING, OF COURSE, THIEU. AND THIS TRI-PARTITE GOVERNMENT IS A GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CONCORD WHICH WILL HAVE THE TASK OF IMPLEMENTING DEMOCRATIC FREEDOMS AND ORGANIZING TRULY FREE AND DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS.

THEREFORE, ANY PERSON BELONGING TO ANY OF THE COMPONENTS MUST RESPECT THIS POLICY.

Q- MR LE DUC THO, DO YOU THINK THAT THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT, AT THE PRESENT JUNCTURE, CAN PLAY A POSITIVE DIPLOMATIC ROLE?

A- WE BELIEVE THAT IN THE PRESENT SITUATION AND IN THE FUTURE, THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THE VIETNAMESE PROBLEM.

Q- MR HARRIMAN, THREE DAYS AGO, WROTE IN THE NEW YORK TIMES THAT THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A NEGOTIATED PEACE WERE NEVER MORE FAVORABLE THAN WHEN MR NIXON TOOK OVER AT THE WHITE HOUSE IN JANUARY, '69. DOES MR LE DUC THO SHARE THAT OPINION?

AND IF SO, WHAT WERE THE FAVORABLE CONDITIONS IN JANUARY, 1969?

A (IN ENGLISH): I REPEATEDLY TOLD MR KISSINGER, AS I SAID ONCE AGAIN IN MY SPEECH TODAY, THAT MR NIXON MISSED MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO SETTLE THE VIETNAMESE PROBLEM PEACEFULLY, AND ONE SUCH OPPORTUNITY AS I SAID IN MY SPEECH, WAS IN JUNE, 1971, WHEN WE PUT FORWARD LOGICAL AND REASONABLE PROPOSALS TO ENABLE THE UNITED STATES TO GET OUT OF THE WAR IN VIET-NAM IN HONOR. BUT MR NIXON REFUSED TO TAKE

ADVANTAGE OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO.

THIS IS MY VIEW. AS TO MR HARRIMAN'S VIEWS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE THINKS ABOUT WHAT HE CALLS "FAVORABLE CONDITIONS."

Q- DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTARY ON THE DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES TAKEN BY THE ENGLISH IN MOSCOW AND PEKING WITH REGARD TO A SOLUTION FOR VIET-NAM?

A- WE KNOW ONLY TOO WELL THE POSITION OF THE LONDON GOVERNMENT. THE LONDON GOVERNMENT ALWAYS FOLLOWS THE AMERICAN LINE. IN THESE CONDITIONS, THE PROPOSALS OF THE LONDON GOVERNMENT ARE WORTHLESS IN OUR OPINION.

THE BRITISH INITIATIVES, FOR EXAMPLE, FOR A RETURN TO THE GENEVA AGREEMENTS ARE DESTINED SIMPLY TO DECEIVE PUBLIC OPINION, FOR AT THIS VERY MOMENT, THE LONDON GOVERNMENT IS STANDING BEHIND

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THE AMERICAN INTENSIFICATION OF THE WAR IN VIET-NAM. AND WE CAN
SAY CLEARLY THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT IS NO LONGER QUALIFIED
TO ASSUME THE ROLE OF CHAIRMAN -- OF CO-CHAIRMAN RATHER -- OF
THE 1954 GENEVA CONFERENCE.
PORTER